most was that, off duty, the GI's were just boys released from an unpleasant task and did not pretend to be anything else. Foreign observers invariably described them as noisy and exuberant but friendly, kind, generous with money and rations, ready to help, and very fond of children. Our officers abroad were also in most cases warm and sympathetic. There were complaints and individual instances of abuses—usually black marketing—but as human beings our men in the armed forces, both privates and officers, impressed the local people as humane and kind.

Our Japanese interpreter, who became our friend and accompanied us on our lecture tour through his country, told us of his first contact with the American troops. A journalist by profession, he was covering Manchuria during the war and acquired some knowledge of English and Russian. During the war he was made an interpreter at the military headquarters in Tokyo. Then came the surrender of the Japanese army; the Americans appeared in Tokyo and ordered the Japanese command to supply them with interpreters. Our friend was assigned to U.S. headquarters. His first order was to accompany an American colonel to what was left of the business district of Tokyo. The colonel stopped at the first bootblack and, when his shoes had been polished, asked the interpreter what he had to pay. Giving the money to the bootblack, he said casually, "Thank you, sir!" "This struck me," said our friend. "Shoeshining is one of the lowliest occupations in Japan. We never thank the shiner, and nobody had ever said 'sir' to that man before. And now he heard this word from an officer of the most powerful army in the world! At this moment I understood that the United States was bringing a new civilization, and what this civilization meant for us in Japan!"

This colonel represented the same breed of military man as the division commander who refused to confirm the harsh sentence against Jack ———.

MY WORK WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT

Our discovery of America would not have been complete without our work with the federal government. There was nothing dramatic in this experience. It included work with agencies of high standard, run by competent and devoted people. I keep a pleasant memory of them, and they seemed to attribute some value to my contribution, though actually I did not fit into the bureaucratic machinery very well and was not overenthusiastic about the way in which things were done around me. I worked for the Central Statistical Board and later for the Social Security Administration; between these two jobs I was with

